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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 26, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.

House of Representatives

Wednesday, January 25, 2012

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Chaffetz).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

January 25, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JASON CHAFFETZ to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day

JOHN A. BOEHNER,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day.

As You make available to Your people the grace and knowledge to meet the needs of the day, we pray that Your spirit will be upon the Members of this people's House, giving them the richness of Your wisdom.

Bless the Members of the minority party as they gather these days. May they, with those who accompany them, travel safely and meet in peace.

Bless also the majority party as they return to their constituencies. Give them hearts and ears to listen well to all of those whom they represent.

May the power of Your truth and our faith in Your providence give them all the confidence they must have to do the good work required for service to our Nation.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CICILLINE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

GABBY

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, my grandmother used to say that there is nothing more powerful than a woman

that has made up her mind. GABBY GIFFORDS has always been that woman. She is compassionate, tenacious, and relentless in her love for our country.

Her desire to serve and represent the people of Arizona has never wavered, and she will carry that same feisty spirit with her indefinitely.

After she was attacked and faced with what seemed to be insurmountable odds, GABBY fought each day to get better. Her recovery has been a miracle, and she will only continue to get stronger.

GABBY is the spirit of bipartisanship that we should all learn from, and I have enjoyed working with her on border security issues. She makes decisions based on what she sees to be right for her people. Although she will no longer serve in Congress for the time being, the people of Arizona have not lost an advocate.

No question about it, GABBY is a fighter, and she fights for what she believes in. She is fiercely dedicated to making her community and our country a better place because she is a woman that has made up her mind.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRESS SHOULD GET THINGS DONE FOR OUR COUNTRY

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, my constituents in Rhode Island have been hit hard by this recession. Last night, President Obama offered Congress a

 \square This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., \square 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

